

**Commissioners Meeting
March 1, 2021 8:00 a m**

Present: Mark Koors, Jerome Buening, & Chuck Emsweller

President Koors opened the March 1st meeting by welcoming everyone; he then announced Title VI forms are available for anyone who would like to fill out and turn in at the Auditor's office.

Mr Koors led the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag; then all were led in prayer by **County Sheriff Dave Durant**.

(Meeting minutes and claims are emailed to each Commissioners on each Friday before their Monday meeting)

Mr Emsweller moved to accept the February 15th meeting minutes, Mr Buening seconded and Mr Koors concurred. Minutes are approved.

Mr Buening moved to approve the accounts payable and payroll claims as presented, Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Highway Superintendent Mark Mohr told Commissioners a second shift (night) of highway workers was called out due to wind and 10 inches of snow; snow removal was pretty good. Warmer temperatures and moisture are leaving stone roads in very bad shape; taking a 60,000-pound dump truck with a load of stone, at this time, would make a bigger mess, so crews will wait for the ground to firm up. He is keeping a list of those who call in to report road problems which will be addressed as soon as possible. Crews are doing hand-patching and repairing signs, straightening signs. There will be a utility coordination meeting today on the Bridge #236 project; mainly for relocating the Greensburg sewer and water lines.

Mr Koors announced there will be a **public comment meeting** for the **proposed intersection change at West Main Street/ State Road 46 and the State Road 3 Bypass, out by Lowe's Pellets and Grain at 5:30 pm on March 25th at the EOC Meeting Room (315 S Ireland)**. He asked **WTRE and the Greensburg Daily News** to get this information out to the public, urging all who are interested to attend that meeting to voice their objection to that proposal. Mr Koors, Mr Mohr and Greensburg Mayor Josh Marsh will meet with **INDOT** in Seymour this week regarding this proposed "Michigan Left" or round-about intersection.

Area Plan Director Krista Duvall didn't have anything to report. Mr Koors did say all four appointees to the **Drainage Board** have contacted him saying they're thankful for being appointed and believe this Board will do a lot of good.

Building Inspector Kenny Buening reported he has completed 20 building inspections, 5 new building permits and reviews and 1 red tag in the past 2 weeks. The red tag was for a pole building too close to the property line; but property owner did locate the 'pins' and the setback is within the ordinance. He recently learned he should be submitting a google map or map quest for all mileage reimbursements he receives. He did go back to the Lake McCoy property with the burnt house to take pictures. He spoke to the neighbor who considered buying the property until he learned about an \$11,000 lien against it. **County Attorney Ken Bass** will run a record search in the Recorder's Office as well as the Clerk's Office for a lien or judgment; that lien holder would also need to be named in the complaint.

The **EMA** will be requesting \$14,839 from the **CARES Act Reimbursement**; their request will have to be approved by the County Council.

A member of the **County Board of Health** contacted Commissioners to request permission for **Diane Berry-Stewart, County Nurse**, to 'roll over' unused PTO (Paid Time Off) hours since her duties required her to be in the office more during this Corona Virus Pandemic. The **Health Board** has approved this. Commissioners agreed this would be okay as long as Mrs Stewart uses the PTO hours soon. The **Health Department** will be requesting monies from the **CARES Act Reimbursement** to pay down comp hours worked related to COVID; they too will need to present this request to the County Council.

County Sheriff Dave Durant and Sheriff Administrative Assistant Ashley Wilson asked what should be done with the old chairs, extra tables and old desks in the Sheriff's old office- most are scratched, dented; probably should be scrapped. The garage at the Old Jail has been cleaned out.

Commissioners discussed purchasing a 43-acre property south of the Fair Grounds to relocate the Highway Department. Appraisals have been completed. The **Power of the Past group** is interested in buying 23 acres of

that property should the Highway Department not need all 43 acres. Two entities have told the Commissioners they would be interested in buying the current Highway Department property at 1301 E Base Road. Mr Buening moved to enter into negotiations to purchase that 43-acre property, Mr Emsweller seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred.

Decatur County Memorial Hospital CEO Rex McKinney thanked the Commissioners for their support during this past year.

The **Indiana Association of County Commissioners** is asking each **Board of Commissioners** to adopt a resolution to object to **House Bill 1381** which is currently pending in the **Indiana General Assembly**, which if enacted would remove local authority to determine the conditions under which wind energy and solar energy projects would be allowed in their County. Ms Duvall stated the County's Comprehensive Plan strongly discourages large scale wind and solar farms. Commissioners support local control/jurisdiction of land use decisions. Mr Bass stated this resolution doesn't 'carry any weight', but does tell the public we are against HB 1381. Mr Emsweller moved to sign/adopt Resolution 2021-2, supporting local control of land use. Mr Buening seconded the motion and Mr Koors concurred. This signed Resolution will be sent to the **IACC**.

Communications Director Erika Free told Commissioners she appreciates the **Highway's** help during the recent snow, getting folks to work. She also recognized **EMA Director Brad Speer** for keeping everyone up-to-date on the COVID calls, the weather; he is doing a great job coordinating everything.

County Treasurer Diane Wenning told Commissioners interest on investments is way down compared to the past couple of years. She and her Deputies are working on how much to invest and with what financial institutions.

The next regular Commissioners meeting is March 15th, 2021, at 8:00 am in Room 106.

With nothing else to come before the Commissioners, Mr Buening moved to recess, Mr Emsweller seconded, and Mr Koors concurred. Meeting recessed.

The next Commissioner meeting will be 8:00 am on Monday, March 1st, 2021

Attest: _____

Date: _____